

Georgia State Patrol

Policy Manual

SUBJECT USE OF GEORGIA STATE PATROL EMBLEMS AND BADGES	POLICY NUMBER 1.02
DISTRIBUTION ALL EMPLOYEES	DATE 1/29/2002

1.02.1 Purpose

It is recognized that there are certain emblems and badges that are directly associated with the Georgia State Patrol and that their use would convey the impression that the organization using such emblems or badges is approved, endorsed or authorized by or associated with the Georgia State Patrol. For this reason, such badges or emblems may not be used without the written approval of the Commissioner of the Department of Public Safety.

1.02.2 Policy

It shall be the policy of the Georgia State Patrol to prohibit the use of badges and emblems associated with the Georgia State Patrol where such use is considered to be detrimental to the interests, reputation, and image of the department. Further, such other use shall only be permitted with the express permission of the Commissioner.

1.02.3 Definitions

- A. Commissioner - is the Commissioner of the Department of Public Safety.
- B. Enterprise - is any person, organization, corporation, partnership or other entity seeking permission to use Georgia State Patrol emblems or badges, whether for commercial purposes or otherwise.
- C. Emblems and badges - shall refer to any facsimile of a Georgia State Patrol badge, patch or seal, in any form, tangible or intangible.

1.02.4 Procedures

- A. Requests for permission to use Georgia State Patrol emblems or badges
 - 1. All requests shall be in writing and directed to the Commissioner.
 - 2. The requests shall include the specific emblem or badge that the enterprise wishes permission to use, the manner in which it shall be used, with samples where possible, and all steps that the enterprise shall take to ensure that the enterprise, and its efforts are not confused with the Department of Public Safety, the Georgia State Patrol or the members of the Uniform Division of the Georgia State Patrol (Georgia State Troopers).

3. The requests shall include the name, address and telephone number of the primary contact individual who is responsible for the enterprise's operations in the State of Georgia.
4. The requests shall include the name, address and telephone number of the enterprise's Agent for service of process in the State of Georgia.
5. The requests shall include all convictions, both felonies and misdemeanors, for the past ten years for any office manager, director, treasurer (either state or national) or member of the board of directors, including pending criminal matters against the enterprise or persons holding the positions identified in this section.
6. If the enterprise is registered with any other agency of the State of Georgia, then a copy of that registration shall be attached to the request.
7. The request shall include a description of any complaints pending against the enterprise with or by any state or federal agency.
8. The request shall be signed and verified by the national chief executive officer and the state director. It shall also be signed by the local agent for service of process if that individual is different than the state director.
9. The enterprise shall submit an original and two copies of the request to the Commissioner.

B. Criteria

1. The Commissioner shall not approve the use of Georgia State Patrol emblems or badges where they feel that the use of such emblems or badges would cause confusion on the behalf of the general public or might otherwise cause embarrassment or discredit to the Georgia State Patrol. This policy is intended to protect the Georgia State Patrol and its reputation.
2. No permission shall be granted where the enterprise intends to use the Georgia State Patrol emblems or badges for any political purpose. The state law enforcement activity shall remain free of political involvement and therefore no use of emblems or badges shall be approved where it will be used for any political purpose or in any political campaign.
3. Permission shall be disapproved whenever the Commissioner is of the opinion that it is not in the Department's best interest to allow its emblems or badges to be used as proposed or by the enterprise seeking its use.

C. Revocation of permission

1. During the term of the permission, it may be revoked by the Commissioner at any time at their discretion and shall be revoked if the enterprise or any of its agents or employees violates the terms of the grant of the permission, this policy, or has knowingly associated with someone using unauthorized Georgia State Patrol emblems or badges.
2. So far as practicable, if a pending permission to use Georgia State Patrol emblems or badges is revoked, reasonable advance notice shall be afforded. However, if the Commissioner deems that such is not practical, then the revocation may be immediate.

D. Appeals

1. If the Commissioner denies a request for permission to use Georgia State Patrol emblems or badges or if it is granted on limited terms, and the person making such request reasonably believes that the Commissioner has acted in bad faith or based on an illegal motive, then the person may file an appeal with the Board of Public Safety.
2. Any appeal shall be filed within fifteen days after the Commissioner's decision.
3. The matter shall then be considered before the Board of Public Safety. The burden shall be with the person making the request to show that the request was improperly denied or limited.